

Andy Beshear GOVERNOR

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY REGARDING HOUSE BILL 195 OF THE 2020 REGULAR SESSION

I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

House Bill 195 of the 2020 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

I am vetoing House Bill 195 because, despite the commendable premise for the legislation in attempting to make publication of advertisements of local government actions more efficient, the provisions of the law would impede the public's ability to receive the complete information of a local government's actions and proposed actions, and further harm newspapers by removing the requirement that the advertisements be published in a newspaper. In addition, the bill would not result in great savings to local governments across the Commonwealth. Under the provisions of this bill, a local government would be required to only publish a one-time newspaper advertisement providing notice that the full advertisement is available on a Notice Web site it maintains or is maintained by a third party, and this one-time advertisement would be smaller in size than the newspaper advertisement required by current law, decreasing the amount of information published in the newspaper. The internet-posting provisions of the bill would apply only to urban-county governments, consolidated local governments, charter counties, unified local governments, and counties with a population of 80,000 or more, resulting in smaller savings for smaller local governments. Considering the existing disparity in internet access in Kentucky, the bill requiring internet-only publication would negatively affect the ability of citizens to receive complete notice and information about a local government's actions.

This the day of March, 2020.

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House Clerk's Office Andy Besnear Governor

